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Jeffrey M. Nelson Chief Legal Officer

October 30, 2018

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE:

Joint Petition of Aiken Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Edisto Electric Cooperative, Incorporated; Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Incorporated, and South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for the Assignment and Reassignment of Territory in Orangeburg County and Approval of Agreements to Limit Corridor Rights

Docket No. 2018-284-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has reviewed and does not object to the filing submitted by of Aiken Electric Cooperative, Incorporated ("Aiken Electric"); Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Incorporated ("Berkeley Electric"); Edisto Electric Cooperative, Incorporated ("Tri-County Electric"), and South Carolina Electric & Gas Company ("SCE&G") (collectively the "Parties") for the Assignment and Reassignment of Territory in Orangeburg County and Approval of Agreements to Limit Corridor Rights ("Joint Petition").

Under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-610(1) (2015), the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") may reassign a portion of previously assigned service areas upon agreement of the affected electric suppliers. The Joint Petition includes the request to (A) assign and reassign various territories in Orangeburg County between the Parties, and (B) limit "corridor rights" in

Letter-Jocelyn G. Boyd Page 2 of 2 October 30, 2018

specified areas in Orangeburg County.

Under S.C. Code Ann. § 58-27-620(8) (2015), the Commission may approve agreements between electric suppliers concerning corridor rights. The Parties request approval of their agreement not to assert corridor rights outside the territory assigned to them in the area described in the Joint Petition.

The Parties indicate their agreement resulted from lengthy and good faith negotiations, the desire to avoid wasteful duplication of electric distribution lines, and to operate those systems safely. In addition, the Parties have given careful consideration to system economy, service reliability and good utility practice, efficiency and safety. If approved, ORS recommends requiring the Parties to file an amended territorial assignment map for Orangeburg County to reflect the modifications requested in the Joint Petition

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

flery M. Nelson

cc: All Parties of Record (via E-mail)
Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-mail)